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- b) a discontinuous oil phase;
- c) softening active ingredient;

wherein a) and b) comprise an oil-in-water emulsion and the rheology of the aqueous phase is modified by the addition of a water-in-oil emulsion into the oil-in-water emulsion, the water-in-oil emulsion comprising:

- i) a high molecular weight polymer having one or more pendant groups in a discontinuous aqueous phase, and
 - ii) a continuous organic solvent phase;

wherein the pendant groups deliver a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g; and

wherein the high molecular weight polymer comprises from about 0.0005% to about 0.005% by weight of the composition.

- (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the continuous aqueous phase of the oil-in-water emulsion comprises less than about 45% by weight of the composition.
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Previously Presented) A composition for softening an absorbent paper tissue comprising:
 - a) a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
 - b) an electrolyte;
 - c) a vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed; wherein the rheology of the composition is modified by the addition of a water-in-oil emulsion comprising:
 - i) from about 20% to about 40% by weight of the premix of a high molecular weight polymer comprising one or more pendant groups having delivering a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g;
 - ii) from about 40% to about 60% of water; and
 - iii) from about 20% to about 40% of an organic solvent.

and

wherein the high molecular weight polymer comprises from about 0.005% to about 0.005% by weight of the composition.

5. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 4 wherein the polymer is a cationic polymer

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- 6. (Previously Presented) A composition for softening an absorbent paper tissue comprising:
 - a) from about 10% to about 60% by weight of the composition of a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
 - b) an electrolyte;
 - from about 0.0005% to about 0.005% of a high molecular weight polymer comprising one or more pendant groups delivering a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g;
 - d) an aqueous vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed; wherein the rheology of the aqueous vehicle is modified by the addition of a water-in-oil emulsion comprising:
 - i) the high molecular weight polymer in a discontinuous aqueous phase, and
 - ii) a continuous organic solvent phase.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 6 wherein said softening active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of quaternary compounds; mono, di-, and tri-ester quaternary ammonium compounds, and mixtures thereof.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 7 wherein said softening active ingredient is a mono-, di-, or tri-ester quaternary ammonium compound having the formula:

$$(R_1)_{4-m} - N^+ - [(CH_2)_n - Y - R_3]_m X^-$$

wherein Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-, or -NH-C(O)-, or -C(O)-NH-;

m is 1 to 3; n is 0 to 4; each R_1 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydroxarbyl or substituted hydroxarbyl group, alkoxylated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof;

each R3 is a C₁₃-C₂₁ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxylated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof; and

X is any softener-compatible anion.

- 9. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 8 wherein m is 3, n is 2, R₁ is methyl, R₃ is C₁₅-C₁₇ alkyl or alkenyl, and Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-.
- 10. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 further comprising from about 2% to about 75% by weight of a plasticizer.

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- (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 wherein the electrolyte comprises up to about 15% by weight of the composition.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 further comprising from about 1% to about 20% by weight of the composition of a bilayer disrupter.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 wherein the vehicle is water.
- (Previously Presented) A composition for softening an absorbent tissue comprising: 14.
 - from about 25% to about 45% by weight of a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
 - b) from about 0.0005% to about 0.005% by weight of a high molecular weight polymer comprising one or more pendant groups delivering a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g wherein the high molecular weight polymer is delivered to the composition in the form of a water-in-oil emulsion comprising the high molecular weight polymer, water and an organic solvent;
 - c) from about 5% to about 50% by weight of a plasticizer;
 - d) from about 0.1% to about 10% by weight of an electrolyte; and
 - a vehicle consisting of water, in which said softening active ingredient is e) dispersed.

15-20. (Cancelled)

Respectfully submitted,

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